

## **A CASE REPORT ON THE USE OF A MOISTENING, CLEANSING, SURFACTANT IRRIGATION SOLUTION AND GEL ON A TRAUMATIC WOUND ON AN IMMUNOSUPPRESSED PATIENT**

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**Aim:** This case study follows the progress of wound healing following a traumatic injury on the right shin of a patient causing a flap of skin to become detached. This patient was on immuno suppressant drugs for other complex medical conditions. It is recognised the drugs affect immune response, increased risk of infection and slow down healing. It is believed that using a solution and gel, containing betaine (0.1%0 and polyhexanide(0.1%) improved the outcome with this difficult to treat wound.

**Method:** A sterile gauze was soaked in Betaine and Polyhexide Solution and placed on the wound for 10 minutes. Betaine and Polyhexanide Gel, honey ointment and a foam dressing were used to dress the wound twice weekly.

The wound showed a positive result of Staph Aureus. The patient was put on oral antibiotics, DMARD therapy was reduced and anti – TNF therapy withheld in consultation with physician.

**Results:** One week of continued dressing regime the patient experienced no pain during cleansing and dressing of the wound and the Patient gained a positive outlook. Wound progressed through healing stages and completely healed within 5 weeks.

**Conclusion:** It appears likely that Betaine and Polyhexanide cleansing and irrigation was helpful in reducing wound slough, biofilm and overall bioburden, however there are limitations of this case study as it lacks controls. With the previous history of this difficult to treat patient, we were delighted with the results.

The patient felt empowered and motivated and has made a full recovery with no further deterioration of his medical condition.